From ng la-XMAS. Handkerchiefs etc. at J. E. to Fred oices land in Bell's rying From For-Saints and Sinners. Amzi ] The sinners, who attend upon the Lewish rude ministrations of brother J. L. Brown, From et," leader of the colored Methodist flock Thos. rch, here, having boasted, much to the dis-Blue & illie comfort of the saints of the same flock, llie that they (the sinners) were more lib-Ex nce eral than the saints in their contribu-Morg ing tions for the support of the Church, ily, v ind brother Brown determined to test the day, uo, matter, seeing in it, doubtless, a good crow an chance to gather in a few shekels. teen ng hit upon a plan unique and noyel and lsa asce admirably calculated to test the liberon he h ality and fire the zeal of the contending ng both parties. Accordingly he organized the a saints into a band which he designated 99 you as the "Host of Joshua," placing them re H under command of Jim Callander and elf his Tom James. The sinners he marshaled Ja under the able leadership of Jim Early, 118 Alfred Pryor and Will Lacy, and these all n, were to be known as the "Host of Giddon geon. " At the Church last Sunday mornersen Tom James. The sinners he marshaled his po "La under the able leadership of Jim Early. well Alfred Pryor and Will Lacy, and these all yo han, were to be known as the "Host of Giddone ingeon." At the Church last Sunday mornever ser. ing brother Brown arranged a contest, e 18 well which would put saint and sinner upon Vho his metal, and, as he shrewdly surmised the incidently replenish the coffers of the Church. On one side of the altar he dow placed a table, upon which the contriwas butions of the "Host of Joshua" were dea to be placed and publicly counted; and on the other side a similar table for the offerings of the "Host of Gideon."-After a few preliminary remarks, in which the pastor urged the importance of liberal giving, and reminded saint and sinner of the love of the Lord for the cheerful giver, the contest opened with lively interest, particularly noticeble among the saints. Purses were opened and examined with eager solicitude, pockets were explored to their very depths and soon the nickels, dimes, quarters, half-dollars, with here and

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poured upon the table of the saints with a boundless prodigality that made the good pastor's eye glisten and his Gran countenance beam with infinite pride satisfaction. The aim of the Joshuaites seemed to be to crush the pretensions of the Gideonites at the yery outside of the contest, so they poured out their shekels with reckless liberality regardless of all consequences, hard times, the exhausted conditions of their larders or any such consideration. The Gideonites were dazed and retired in discomfiture, their table showing only one dollar, whilst the "Host of Joshua" had piled up before the astonished eyes of their beloved pastor the largesum of ten dollars.

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But the contest was not to be so easily won by this bold dash of the saints.-At the night meeting the sinners rallied, gathered themselves together for another effort and soon had their table groaning under a burden of fifteen dollars, made up of all denominations of

Due the contest was not to be so easily Pe ficent won by this bold dash of the saints .ch ecital At the night meeting the sinners rallied. 80 presgathered themselves together for an-81 other effort and soon had their table cingroaning under a burden of fifteen dollded lars, made up of all denominations of ion, Uncle Sam's coins. And now the saints. ory in turn, were discomforted, fairly paring alvized, indeed, by this splendid showing iss of the sinners, and their humiliation tawas well nigh complete when, with all of their pleading and exhorting, they could a raise only six dollars and 35 cents more. Fortunately for them the energies of the sinners were now expended and their pockets empty, so that this 35 cents was sufficient to give the Joshuaites the victory, though by a very narrow margin. Result-\$32.35, a flush treasury and a smiling parson.

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